

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07

NEA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 L-03 FRB-03

OMB-01 TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

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TAGS: UNCTAD EGEN ETRD UN

SUBJ: PARIS CONFERENCE ON ENERGY, ETC.

REF: GENEVA 6326

1. AT UNCTAD TDB GROUP B CAUCUS AUGUST 14, FRENCH
AMBASSADOR FERNAND-LAURENT REPORTED ON WHAT PEREZ
GUERRERO TOLD HIM ABOUT MEETING OF LDC 7 IN GENEVA LAST
WEEKEND. IN INTRODUCING SUBJECT, FERNAND-LAURENT STATED
THAT PEREZ GUERRERO HAD CONVENED THIS MEETING ON HIS OWN
AND HAD NOT EVEN INFORMED FRENCH IN ADVANCE.

2. FERNAND-LAURENT'S REPORT WAS AS FOLLOWS: MEETING
BEGAN SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 AND RAN UNTIL AFTERNOON AUGUST 12.
PARTICIPANTS WERE SAME LDC 7 AS HAD BEEN PRESENT AT FIRST
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PARIS PREPCOM MEETING. GROUP ALSO MET WITH UNCTAD SYG

COREA TWICE TO DISCUSS UNCTAD ROLE, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING COMMODITIES. CONCERNING TIMING, GROUP HAD ENVISAGED GISCARD D'ESTAING CONVENING SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING TOWARD END OF SEPTEMBER. HOWEVER ARAB COUNTRIES NOTED THAT RAMADAN WOULD LAST UNTIL OCTOBER 7 AND THEY WOULD PREFER MEETING ONLY AFTER THAT DATE. SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING WOULD HAVE SOME FORMAT AS EARLIER ONE. MAIN CONFERENCE ITSELF WOULD THEN BE HELD END OF NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. CONCERNING COMPOSITION, MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE EXPANDED TO 27 CONSISTING OF 19 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND 8 DEVELOPED. (WE ASSUME THIS CONCERNS CONFERENCE ITSELF, NOT SECOND PREPCOM.) LDC PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE SELECTED BY PRESENT 7, AND DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE CHOSEN BY U.S., EC AND JAPAN. FERNAND-LAURENT INDICATED LDC-7 HAD NOT INDICATED WHERE THEY WOULD WANT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD OR WHOM THEY WOULD WANT TO CHAIR IT. HE SAID THEY EXPECTED CONFERENCE WOULD BE SHORT -- LESS THAN A WEEK -- WITH MAIN ROLE OF SETTING UP FOUR REPEAT FOUR COMMISSIONS. FOURTH COMMISSION WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCIAL QUESTIONS, AND IT WOULD DEAL WITH FINANCIAL MATTERS COMING UP IN OTHER THREE COMMISSIONS. APPARENTLY THOUGHT OF LDC 7 IS THAT MEMBERS OF FINANCIAL COMMISSION WOULD SOMEHOW BE DRAWN FROM OTHER THREE COMMISSIONS, AND IT WOULD THUS CONSTITUTE SOMETHING OF A COORDINATING MECHANISM. (AS HE DESCRIBED SECOND COMMISSION, IT WOULD DEAL WITH COMMODITIES, NOT MERELY RAW MATERIALS.) COMMISSIONS WOULD BE EXPECTED TO START WORK SOON AFTER THEY ESTABLISHED. LDCS WOULD THEN LIKE SECOND AND FINAL MEETING OF CONFERENCE IN SIX MONTHS. (FERNAND-LAURENT ASKED US WHETHER OUR 1976 ELECTIONS WOULD BE LIKELY TO REQUIRE LATER DATE FOR FINAL MEETING. WE RESPONDED ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT IT SEEMED TOO EARLY TO SPECULATE ON WHETHER U.S. ELECTIONS WOULD HAVE ROLE IN CONSIDERING POSSIBLE SCHEDULE. IF DEPT HAS OTHER VIEW, SUGGEST IT BE COMMUNICATED TO FRENCH VIA EMBASSY PARIS OR IN WASHINGTON.) FOUR COMMISSIONS WOULD WORK IN PARALLEL AND FROM TIME TO TIME THERE WOULD BE MEETINGS OF A BUREAU CONTAINING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE COMMISSIONS. THERE WOULD THUS BE CLOSE ORGANIC LINK BETWEEN THEM. LDC 7 ALSO AGREED THAT THEY WOULD CONSOLIDATE THEIR "CLUB" BY ESTABLISHING A SMALL SECRETARIAT WHICH MIGHT LATER BE ENLARGED TO SERVICE THE ENTIRE 19.

3. FERNAND-LAURENT OBSERVED THAT HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT MEETING WAS HELD TO FACILITATE A RESUMPTION

OF THE DIALOGUE AND A RECONVENING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION. HE CONSIDERED THAT THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE LDC 7 WHICH HE HAD JUST DESCRIBED SHOULDN'T CAUSE ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS AND SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE FRENCH PRESIDENT TO CONVENE THE SECOND PREPARATORY CONFERENCE WHICH THE LDC 7 CLEARLY WANT. SOMEWHAT CONTRADICTORILY, HOWEVER, HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE PROPOSED FINANCIAL COMMISSION WOULD GET INTO MONETARY MATTERS RAISED DELICATE ISSUES.

4. OTHER DELEGATES, INCLUDING U.S., THANKED FERNAND-LAURENT FOR PRESENTATION BUT HAD NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO PRESENT. AUSTRALIA ASKED ABOUT LDC VIEWS ON LIKELY SIZE OF COMMISSIONS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT APPARENTLY THEY HAD NOT TAKEN ANY DECISION ON THIS ALTHOUGH THERE SEEMED TO BE SOME SENTIMENT TO HAVE COMMISSIONS SMALLER THAN CONFERENCE ITSELF, WITH PERHAPS 15 MEMBERS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION OF UNCTAD, FERNAND-LAURENT STATED THAT UNCTAD SYG COREA HAD NOT BEEN PRESENT AT FIRST PARIS MEETING, SINCE UN SYG WALDHEIM HAD NEGLECTED TO DESIGNATE HIM AND HAD ONLY NAMED VAN LAETHAM AS U.N. OBSERVER. FERNAND-LAURENT THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT COREA WILL MAKE BIG EFFORT TO BE PRESENT THIS TIME, PERHAPS EVEN WITH UNCTAD NAME CARD. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR PUTNAM ADDED THAT COREA SEEMED VERY SATISFIED WITH RESULTS HIS CONTACTS WITH LDC 7.

5. FINNISH REP ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY EAST EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION. FERNAND-LAURENT RESPONDED THAT AT EARLIER PARIS MEETING, EES HAD NOT SHOWN ANY INTEREST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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